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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/844,543	04/27/2001	Lawrence Lam	PALM-3570.US.P	3058

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EXAMINER

CHANG, YEAN HSI

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2835

DATE MAILED: 07/22/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/844,543

Applicant(s)

LAM, LAWRENCE

Examiner

Yean-Hsi Chang

Art Unit

2835

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 07 July 2003.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1,3-10,12-18 and 20-26 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1,3-10,12-18 and 20-26 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s) _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 1, 4-6 and 9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kikinis (US 5,841,424) in view of SanGiovanni (US 2002/0102946 A1) and Batio (US 5,949,643).

Kikinis teaches a keyboard sled comprising:

- A receiving portion (19a, fig. 1) adapted to receive a portable computer system (37, fig. 4) (claim 1)
- An interface connector (29, fig. 2) disposed within said receiving portion (claim 1)
- A mounting mechanism (35, fig. 4) disposed within said receiving portion (claim 1)
- A keyboard portion (13, fig. 3) for providing alphanumeric keys (not shown, see col. 3, lines 20-22) (claims 1 and 5)
- Wherein a pass channel is provided between slots (53, fig. 5; also see col. 5, lines 35-43) (claim 4)

- Wherein said keyboard portion is a split keyboard (shown in fig. 4) having a left portion (13, fig. 4) and a separately located right portion (17, fig. 4) (claim 6)
- Wherein said computer system is a palmtop computer (see col. 4, lines 10-13) (claim 9)

Kikinis fails to teach the keyboard sled comprising a receiving portion configured to receive the portable computer system in a landscape orientation, and a data storage access slot.

SanGiovanni teaches a keyboard sled (102, fig. 3) comprising a receiving portion (106, fig. 3) configured to receive a computer system (104, fig. 3) in a landscape orientation (shown in fig. 4A); and Batio teaches a keyboard sled (202, fig. 19) comprising a data storage access slot (208, fig. 19).

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the device of Kikinis with the receiving portion taught by SanGiovanni, and the data storage access slot taught by Batio so that the connected portable computer system may be received in a landscape orientation for user's convenience, and may have more space for data storage.

3. Claims 10, 12 and 14-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kikinis in view of SanGiovanni and Batio.

Kikinis teaches a gaming sled comprising:

- A receiving portion (19a, fig. 1) adapted to receive a portable computer system (37, fig. 4) (claim 10)
- An interface connector (29, fig. 2) disposed within said receiving portion enabling communication between said gaming sled and portable computer (claims 10 and 12)
- A mounting mechanism (35, fig. 4) disposed within said receiving portion (claim 10)
- A gaming controls portion (13, fig. 3) for providing game control input and include joystick functionality and function control buttons (15, fig. 4; see also col. 3, lines 20-22) (claims 10 and 15)
- Wherein a pass channel is provided between slots (53, fig. 5; also see col. 5, lines 35-43) (claim 14)

Kikinis fails to teach the gaming sled comprising a receiving portion configured to receive the portable computer system in a landscape orientation, and a data storage access slot.

SanGiovanni teaches a keyboard sled (102, fig. 3) comprising a receiving portion (106, fig. 3) configured to receive a computer system (104, fig. 3) in a landscape orientation (shown in fig. 4A), and Batio teaches a keyboard sled (202, fig. 19) comprising a data storage access slot (208, fig. 19).

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the device of Kikinis with the receiving portion taught by SanGiovanni, and the data storage access slot taught by Batio so that the connected

portable computer system may be received in a landscape orientation for user's convenience, and have more space for data storage.

4. Claims 18, 21-24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kikinis in view of SanGiovanni and Batio.

Kikinis teaches a system comprising:

- A portable computer (37, fig. 4) (claim 18)
- A sled (11, fig. 4) comprising:
 - A receiving portion (19a, fig. 1) adapted to receive said portable computer system (claim 18)
 - An interface connector (29, fig. 2) disposed within said receiving portion to provide a communication link between said sled and said portable computer when installed (claim 18)
 - A mounting mechanism (35, fig. 4) disposed within said receiving portion (claim 18)
 - A keyboard portion (13, fig. 3) for providing alphanumeric input keys (not shown, see col. 3, lines 20-22) (claims 18 and 22)
 - Wherein a pass channel is provided between slots (53, fig. 5; also see col. 5, lines 35-43) (claim 21)
 - Wherein said keyboard portion is a split keyboard (shown in fig. 4) having a left side portion (13, fig. 4) and a separately located right side portion (17, fig. 4) (claim 23)

- A gaming control portion (15, fig. 4; see also col. 3, lines 20-22) (claim 24)

Kikinis fails to teach a sled of a system comprising a receiving portion configured to receive the portable computer system in a landscape orientation, and a data storage access slot.

SanGiovanni teaches a sled (102, fig. 3) of a system, comprising a receiving portion (106, fig. 3) configured to receive a computer system (104, fig. 3) in a landscape orientation (shown in fig. 4A), and Batio teaches a sled (202, fig. 19) of a system comprising a data storage access slot (208, fig. 19).

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the device of Kikinis with the receiving portion taught by SanGiovanni, and the data storage access slot taught by Batio so that the connected portable computer system may be received in a landscape orientation for user's convenience, and have more space for data storage.

5. Claims 3, 13 and 20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kikinis in view of SanGiovanni and Batio, further in view of Helot et al. (US 6,185,095 B1).

Kikinis in view of SanGiovanni and Batio discloses the claimed invention except clearly specifying the mounting mechanism being insertable in a mounting hook receiving slot of a portable computer system.

Helot et al. teaches a mounting mechanism (36, fig. 1) of a computer receiving portion (32, fig. 1), being insertable in a mounting hook receiving slot of a portable computer (see col. 3, lines 58-62).

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the device of Kikinis modified by SanGiovanni and Batio with the mounting mechanism taught by Helot et al. for providing secure retention of a portable computer system.

6. Claims 7-8, 16-17 and 25-26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kikinis in view of SanGiovanni and Batio, further in view of Madsen et al. (US 6,181,284 B1).

Kikinis in view of SanGiovanni and Batio discloses the claimed invention except a wireless modem.

Madsen teaches a keyboard sled (26, fig. 1) comprising an antenna system (12, fig. 1) being configured to be in communication with a wireless communication network which may include wireless modem and Bluetooth technology (see col. 7, lines 21-30).

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the device of Kikinis modified by SanGiovanni and Batio with the antenna system taught by Madsen such that the sled may be able to communicate with a wireless network.

Response to Arguments

7. Applicant's arguments filed 7 July 2003 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Applicant's arguments can be summarized into the following, Kikinis does not teach: 1. a keyboard sled that can receive a portable computer system in a landscape orientation; 2. an interface connector in the receiving port configured to couple with an interface connector on the portable computer system; 3. a mounting mechanism to positively retain the portable computer system when inserted in the keyboard sled; and 4. a slot providing access to a data storage drive disposed on the portable computer system. Items 2 and 3 are indicated in §2 and 4 hereinabove; items 1 and 4 are taught by SanGiovanni and Batio which are also indicated in §2 and 4, and motivation for combinations are also given in respective paragraphs.

In addition, a slot may be used as a mounting mechanism and may positively retain an inserted element; an adaptor may be considered as part of the receiving portion for performing mechanical and/or electrical connections; and if all subject matters and all limitations disclosed in only one reference, then the rejections would have been 35 USC § 102 instead of 35 USC § 103.

Conclusion

8. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Correspondence


9. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Yean-Hsi Chang whose telephone number is (703) 306-5798. The examiner can normally be reached on 07:30-16:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Darren Schuberg can be reached on (703) 308-4815. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 305-3431 for regular communications and for After Final communications. There are RightFAX numbers and provide the fax sender with an auto-reply fax verifying receipt by the USPTO: Before-Final (703-872-9318) and After-Final (703-872-9319).

Art Unit: 2835

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 305-8558.

Yean-Hsi Chang
Patent Examiner
Art Unit: 2835
July 20, 2003



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